

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 08838 241703Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----250059Z 024387 /73

R 241655Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8496
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 08838

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR, WB, GW
SUBJECT: CIVAIR: BERLIN FARE INCREASE PROPOSAL

REF: STATE 116881

1. WE HAVE RUN INTO AT LEAST TEMPORARY OBSTACLE IN OUR EFFORT TO COMPLY WITH GERMAN REQUEST FOR INFORMAL CONSIDERATION OF IGS FARE INCREASE PROPOSAL. BRITISH AIRWAYS, DESPITE HAVING URGED A FEW WEEKS AGO THAT WE PROCEED WITH THE PRESENTATION TO BCATAG OF THE PROPOSAL WHILE AWAITING USG APPROVAL, IS NOW UNWILLING TO SUBMIT A FARE INCREASE PROPOSAL THAT WILL NOT BE PART OF A FORMAL PRESENTATION ON THE GROUNDS THAT THIS WILL GIVE THE GERMAN SIDE AN ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITY TO EXAMINE AND SEEK TO REFUTE THE JUSTIFICATION OF THE PROPOSAL.

2. WE HAVE TOLD BRITISH CAA HANLEY THAT WE CONSIDER THAT THIS IS A PROBLEM FOR THE CAA'S TO HANDLE AND EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT BA WAS APPARENTLY BEING GIVEN A VETO OVER THE ACTIONS OF HMG. HE REPLIED THAT BA
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FELT WITH SOME JUSTIFICATION THAT THE INFORMATION HANDED TO THE CAA'S WAS PROPRIETARY INFORMATION WHICH SHOULD NOT BE MADE AVAILABLE TO OTHERS WITHOUT BA'S PERMISSION. WE POINTED OUT THAT WE WERE COMMITTED TO PERMITTING THE BCATAG A REASONABLE TIME TO CONSIDER THE FARE INCREASE PROPOSAL AND THAT FAILING TO MEET THE GERMAN REQUEST FOR AN INFORMAL CONSIDERATION WOULD

BE SURE TO DELAY THE PROCESSING OF THE AIRLINES' APPLICATION. HANLEY SAID THAT HE WAS PURSUING THE SUBJECT WITH BA AND HOPED TO BE ABLE TO BRING THEM AROUND. HE WILL BE GOING TO LONDON ON MAY 31 WHERE HE WILL DISCUSS THE MATTER IF IT HAS NOT BEEN RESOLVED IN THE MEANTIME.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WE SUGGEST THAT IF HANLEY IS NOT ABLE TO BRING BA INTO LINE WITHIN ONE WEEK THAT DEPARTMENT CONSIDER MAKING APPROACHES TO HMG IN WASHINGTON AND/OR LONDON URGING THAT BA BE OVER-RULED. IN SO DOING, IT MIGHT BE POINTED OUT THAT OBLIGATION TO CONSULT WITH GERMANS ON FARE INCREASES AND COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE STATISTICS ON IGS PERFORMANCE BOTH WERE RESULTS OF BRITISH INITIATIVES.

4. REPLY TO REFTEL FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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